



Students "Can" Make A Difference in Litter Prevention

The winners of the 2007 No MOre Trash! trash can decorating contest were presented with their prizes in April by representatives of the Missouri departments of Transportation and Conservation. All of the presentations were made at the schools, some of them were made in front of the class and some in front of the entire school. The grand-prize presentation to Livingston Elementary was made during an all-school assembly.

The contest awarded an overall grand prize winner and a first place prize to the winner in each of the three competition categories (K-2, 3-5, 6-8). See page 4 for a complete list of the winning schools and photos of their decorated trash cans. The grand prize winner received \$500 and each category winner received \$100. Entries were judged based on creativity, adherence to contest rules and appropriate theme and logo use.

The contest is sponsored by the Missouri departments of Conservation and Trans-

portation. Kindergarten to eighth-grade students are encouraged to decorate a trash can in a prominent location at their



Grand Prize Winner: Southwest Livingston County R-1

school and include a litter-prevention message, along with the No MOre Trash! logo.

"This contest was developed to raise awareness about Missouri's litter problem and discourage littering among elementary and middle school students in a fun and creative way," said Arleasha Mays, Missouri Department of Conservation's No MOre Trash! co-coordinator. "All the entries were so unique and original, it was hard to pick the winners."

The trash can decorating contest was launched in 2005 as an annual event through Missouri's No MOre Trash! program, a statewide litter-prevention program.

For more information about No MOre Trash! or the contest, visit www.nomoretrash.org. ■

See page 4 for a complete list of winners and photos of their entries.

ADOPTER SPOTLIGHT

Volunteers "Join Hands" to Pick Up Trash

The Thrivent Financial for Lutherans organization coordinated 54 youth and adult volunteers on April 15 to pick up trash along roadways in New Haven, Mo, in honor of *Join Hands Day* and the No MOre Trash! Bash. Join Hands Day is a national day of service for youth and adults to work together to make a difference in their local communities. The No MOre Trash! Bash is a month-long event in April co-sponsored by

the Missouri departments of Transportation and Conservation.

The volunteers came from various churches, organizations and businesses in the local area. The volunteers worked for two straight hours picking up 70 trash bags and several larger items. The volunteers joined with the Missouri departments of Transportation, Conservation, Franklin County Highway and the New Haven City Park to

pick up litter on various state, county and city roadways and streams.

"The volunteers all worked together very well and it was a really fun event," said Ruth Rethemeyer, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans congressional coordinator. "Following the trash pickup many volunteers joined together at Camp Trinity to enjoy some outdoor fun and a BBQ provided by Thrivent Financial."

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The Missouri Adopt-A-Highway Program Turns 20!

This fall marks the 20th anniversary of the Adopt-A-Highway program in Missouri. To kick off the celebration, MoDOT has planned several activities and events at the Missouri State Fair in Sedalia from Aug. 9-19.

State Fair Birthday Celebration

A flower arrangement display in the Highway Gardens and an exhibit in the Highway Gardens Exposition Center, featuring history about the program in Missouri will be set up for the duration of the fair. A membership drive to encourage people to fill out adoption requests will also take place.

The birthday celebration will be held on No MOre Trash! day on Friday, Aug. 10. The celebration will include cookies, scavenger hunt, games, presents and other giveaways.

Be sure to stop by the exposition center at 2 p.m. for cookies every day and while you're there, pick up other giveaways, including stickers, buttons and a No MOre Trash! activity book. Trash can wraps throughout the fair will showcase the AAH 20-year logo and the NMT logo.

A statewide birthday celebration and other celebrations and events are also being planned for this fall across the state. ■



ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

The logo for Missouri's AAH 20-year Celebration.

Beautiful Day to Celebrate Earth

Friday, April 20, turned out to be the perfect spring day to celebrate Earth Day with the sun shining and pleasant temperatures.



An Earth Day participant examines a Norway Spruce seedling.

Approximately 1,500 Missouri students turned out for this year's Earth Day Celebration, which was held on the Capitol lawn from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.

"We always get a big crowd when the weather cooperates," said Roadside Management Supervisor Stacy Armstrong.

MoDOT's booths were a big hit this year! The department gave out 3,000 Norway Spruce seedlings and encouraged the students to plant them to beautify their yards. The students also stopped by to sign the litter pledge and promise to spread the word about NoMore Trash!

MoDOT's Central District also participated in the event with their game, "Pitch In For a

Litter-Free Earth", that challenged students to "pitch" beanbags through a trash board.

"The idea for the game was very creative and the kids loved it," Armstrong said.

The event is sponsored by the Department of Natural Resources to encourage children to take care of the environment and preserve natural resources. A variety of state agencies participate in the event to help educate students and spread awareness about the importance of taking care of the environment.

For photographs or more information about the 2007 Earth Day Celebration, visit www.dnr.mo.gov/earthday/media.htm. ■

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Join Hands Day is sponsored by America's fraternal benefit societies and is the only national day of service specifically focused on bringing youth and communities together. The Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is the nation's largest fraternal benefit society and supports volunteer activities that meet the needs of the local communities.

"We were really pleased with the turnout of the event and really appreciate the participation from so many organizations and individuals in New Haven," said Rethemeyer.

SAFETY TIP

Beware of Ticks!

With tick season upon us, it's a good time to revisit ways to avoid them and the diseases they can cause: Tularemia, Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain spotted fever. According to the National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health, you can reduce the hazards associated with tick-borne diseases by following these safety tips:

- Avoid tick-infested areas, like brush, whenever possible.
- Wear light-colored clothing, long pants

and long sleeves. Tuck your shirt into your pants and your pants cuffs into your socks to keep ticks on the outside of your clothes and off your skin.

- Use insect repellent.
- Check yourself for ticks frequently.
- Remove attached ticks immediately.

After removing the tick, thoroughly disinfect the bite site and wash your hands with soap and water.

Trees for Tomorrow Program Will Provide Millions of Trees For Youth

National Arbor Day, April 27, kicked off the new *Trees for Tomorrow* program sponsored by the Missouri departments of Transportation and Conservation. The program will

provide 2.5 million trees to Missouri youth groups over the next five years. MoDOT will purchase half a million trees a year, and the MDC will distribute them to the youth groups, including the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, FFA and 4-H groups.

The *Trees for Tomorrow* program allows both departments to invest in the beautification of Missouri through the planting of the trees. The trees will be aesthetically pleasing, and will also provide clean air, increase property value and enhance recreation.

"*Trees for Tomorrow* is a great way to get kids involved in protecting our natural resources," Hoskins said. "We're proud to work with MoDOT and kids all over Missouri to get trees planted, improve our environment and enhance the natural beauty of our state."

The Conservation's State Forest Nursery at Licking will provide the more than 60 varieties of the seedlings for the program. Planting instructions will be provided with each seedling to the school children. Additional planting information can also be found on the Conservation Web site, www.mdc.mo.gov.

For more information on the program and to view photographs of the kickoff event, visit www.modot.org. ■



A group of fourth graders plants a tree during the April 27 kickoff, while Director John Hoskins of the Missouri Department of Conservation (left) and Director Pete Rahn of the Missouri Department of Transportation (right) look on.

"MoDOT is responsible for maintaining nearly 400,000 acres of land next to our roadways," said MoDOT Director Pete Rahn. "We sometimes have to cut down trees when building new roads or to keep highways safe. This program will help us replace trees we impact."

The annual investment for the trees will cost \$150,000, which is a lot less than the \$1.5 million it takes to build a mile of two-lane highway in rural areas. MoDOT will also fund MDC's long-standing annual program that provides a tree seedling to every fourth grader in the state.

MoDOT ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

Litter Cleanup



5,273 MILES

3,761 ADOPTERS

Thanks!

Many thanks to everyone for making the No MORE Trash! Bash 2007 a success, in spite of the weather! Almost 72,000 bags of litter were collected from out roadsides during April.



■ For the second year in a row, South Central District led the way with 15,487 bags picked up.

■ Special thanks to the Central District for the most bags picked up by Adopt-A-Highway volunteers - 4,675

■ The St. Louis District for the most bags picked up by MoDOT crews - 8,269

Congrats to the St. Louis District for the best Bash event for their news conference with elected officials, law enforcement and other partners interested in a litter-free Missouri followed by a litter pick up along I-70.

Thanks again to everyone for your support of the Bash and attractive roadsides.



It's Almost Show Time for the 2007 Missouri State Fair

"It's Show Time" is the theme for this year's state fair, which will run from Aug. 9-19 in Sedalia. MoDOT is planning a big show



Fairgoers sign the litter pledge on No MORE Trash! Day at the 2006 State Fair.

for the Highway Gardens this year. Be sure to discover new displays at the Highway Gardens Transportation Exposition Center, including one for the 800 Bridge Program and the 20th anniversary of the Missouri Adopt-A-Highway program.

The center will also feature several giveaway items and other displays including Better Roads/Brighter Future, work zone safety,

Amtrak and other highway safety displays. Visitors are encouraged to explore the guard cable display and seat belt convincer right outside the exposition center.

Kids are encouraged to check out the "Kid Zone", full of a variety of computer games that will focus on highway safety and other transportation issues. They can also participate in a scavenger hunt, held every day, with a chance at winning a new bicycle!

In honor of the 20-year anniversary of the Adopt-A-Highway program, No MORE Trash! day will feature a birthday celebration, which will include a scavenger hunt, games and much more. A display, focusing on the history of the program in Missouri will be in the exposition center for the duration of the fair.

"The fair is a great venue to educate more than 300,000 visitors about all the great



Last year's NMT Survivor game.

things MoDOT does," said Don Hillis, director of System Management.

The fair also features concerts, food, games, rides, competitions and exhibits. Several big country music stars have already been booked for the concerts – Dierks Bentley will perform on Sunday, Aug. 12, and Big & Rich will perform on Thursday, Aug. 16.

For more information about the Missouri State Fair, visit www.mostatefair.com. ■

Winners of the 2007 NMT Trash Can Decorating Contest

K-2 Grade Winner



Coverdell Elementary in St. Charles.

3-5 Grade Winner (tie)



Macon County R-4 in New Cambria.



Brown Elementary in Florissant.

6-8 Grade Winner



Blair Oaks High School in Jefferson City.

New Adopters

April - May, 2007

April

1st Christian Church, Amplified Student Ministries, Union Missouri
Beloved Son Bryan Grant
BSA Troop & Pack 4467, East Carter County
Coldwell Banker Professional Associates
Deepwater Fire Department
Eagle Fitness and Tanning Members
Ebony Delaney
Freedom Bank of Southern Missouri Cassville & Seligman
Friends of the Friendless Animal Rescue
Hancock Place School District Board of Education
In Loving Memory of Jason Madison Murray
In Loving Memory of Timothy Scott Dennis, Son, Brother, Dad & Friend
In Loving Memory of Tom Gatewood
In Loving Memory, Curtis W. Crawford "Simple Man"
In Memory of Henry Tilley
In Memory of our Loving Father, Sam Bharti
In Memory of Tyler E. Parker
Knights of Columbus Council #8334
North Hampton Woods Neighborhood
P.P.S. Tammy Berg-Neuman Probation Services
Pathways United Methodist Church
RT. U Senior Citizens
Speedwell Southern Baptist Church
St. Ann's Church Parish School of Religion
The Condray Family, In Loving Memory of Lillian and Clarence
The Hagood's
The STL Drifter M/C

Three Brothers Ranch
Trinity United Methodist Church
Twenty Four Seven Christ-Centered Recovery Group
Willow Grove Center

May

Ahniyviya Tribe Inc.
All Lakes Insurance Agency
Alpha Phi Gamma "Mockers"
Boy Scout Troop 382
Club STLSCION
Edward Jones, Erick G. Oppelz
Embrace Youth Ministries
FCCLA Bourbon High School
Golden Living Center
Hitt 4-H Club
In Loving Memory of Becky & Cully Goodin
In Loving Memory of Bob Striebeck
In Loving Memory of Mandy Hampton

In Loving Memory of our Mom and Grandma, Patty Penny-Graff
Keith Inman, Allstate Insurance
Knights of Columbus Council #8920
Knights of Pythias & Pythian & Sisters of Independence
Lake City Credit Union
NKC Firefighters Community Service Program Organization
Nustar Energy LP Pipeline & Terminals
Peoples Community Bank
Prairie View Baptist Church
Sisters of UJIMA Founded By Carolyn Mends
Terry & Donna Lemons, Donna's Country Quilting
Versailles Chamber of Commerce
Wasola Fire Department Inc.
Wayne's World Cowgurls
West Asset Management, Earth City, MO

Thank You New Adopters!

Roadside Review is a quarterly newsletter published by the Maintenance unit of the Missouri Department of Transportation. It is mailed to Adopt-A-Highway volunteers and other interested groups. After reading, please share this newsletter with others. Additional copies are available upon request.

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Our mission is to provide a world-class transportation experience that delights our customers and promotes a prosperous Missouri.



For more information about the Adopt-A-Highway program:

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This newsletter was printed on recycled paper to help preserve our environment.



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TALKIN' TRASH

No MORE Trash Bash Cleans Up Missouri

Almost 72,000 yellow bags were placed along roadsides across the state as thousands chipped in to clean up litter on roadways during the 2007 No MORE Trash! Bash in April.

Less trash on our roadsides and in our streams and rivers, as well as educating the public about the real cost of litter is the goal of the annual No MORE Trash! Bash, sponsored by MoDOT and the Missouri Department of Conservation. The month-long event encouraged citizens to hold litter pickups and educational programs to raise awareness of Missouri's litter problem.

"We want people to realize we can have a more beautiful litter-free state if people just quit throwing trash out there in the first place," said Stacy Armstrong, one of the MoDOT No MORE Trash! Bash coordinators. "Besides being a lot of work to pick up, it costs Missouri millions of dollars each year – money that could be spent on other things like improving Missouri roads."

Thousands helped clean up trash, including MoDOT crews, Missouri Department of Conser-

vation Stream Team members and other employees, Adopt-A-Highway participants, incarcerated crews and other volunteers.

Many clean up events and activities also took place around the state in April during the Bash, including the 2007 Earth Day Celebration held on the capital lawn in Jefferson City. More than 1,500 people attended the event where MoDOT handed out seedlings, encouraged attendees to sign the litter pledge and hosted games and activities.

"Although this year got off to a slow start because of the record low temperatures in the beginning of April, the activity seems to have picked up later in the month," said Stacy Armstrong, roadside management supervisor. "Many volunteers picked up in March and May as well."

The month-long Bash supports No MORE Trash!, a year-round litter-prevention campaign established by the Missouri departments of Conservation and Transportation. Volunteers who report their activity will be recognized for their efforts with a lapel pin, or other token of appreciation. ■